

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION

J&J SPORTS PRODUCTIONS, INC.,
as Broadcast Licensee of the May 5, 2012
Floyd Mayweather, Jr. v. Miguel Cotto Event,

Plaintiff,

V.

Civil Action No. 4:15-cv-01135

1) C.A.A. BUSINESS LLC, individually, and d/b/a RIO VERDE NIGHT CLUB;

2) JUAN ARRIETA, individually, and d/b/a RIO VERDE NIGHT CLUB; and

3) MIRTHALA CARDENAS, individually, and d/b/a
RIO VERDE NIGHT CLUB,

Defendants.

PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL COMPLAINT

Plaintiff J&J Sports Productions, Inc. (“Plaintiff”) files *Plaintiff’s Original Complaint* against Defendants 1) C.A.A. Business LLC, individually, and d/b/a Rio Verde Night Club (“C.A.A.”); 2) Juan Arrieta, individually, and d/b/a Rio Verde Night Club (“Arrieta”); and 3) Mirthala Cardenas, individually, and d/b/a Rio Verde Night Club (“Cardenas”) (collectively “Defendants”).

PARTIES

1. Plaintiff. J&J Sports Productions, Inc., as Broadcast Licensee of the May 5, 2012 Floyd Mayweather, Jr. v. Miguel Cotto Event, is a foreign corporation. Plaintiff's business address is 2380 South Bascom Avenue, Suite 200, Campbell, California 95008.

2. Defendant C.A.A. C.A.A. Business LLC is a Texas organization doing business as Rio Verde Night Club (the “Establishment”) from its principal place of business located at

2205 Fulton St., Houston, TX 77009. On the date of the Event (as defined herein), Defendant C.A.A.:

- A. held the license/permit issued by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for the Establishment located at 8103 Airline, Suite C, Houston, TX 77037;
- B. owned and/or operated the Establishment;
- C. had a right and ability to supervise the activities of the Establishment; and
- D. had an obvious and direct financial interest in the activities of the Establishment.

Defendant C.A.A. may be served by delivering the *Summons* and a copy of *Plaintiff's Original Complaint* to its registered agent for service of process, Edward Gonzalez, at 2205 Fulton St., Houston, TX 77009.

3. Defendant Arrieta. Juan Arrieta is an individual residing in the State of Texas.

On the date of the Event (as defined herein), Defendant Arrieta:

- A. was an owner and/or manager of the Establishment;
- B. was an officer and/or owner of the entity owning the Establishment;
- C. had a right and ability to supervise the activities of the Establishment; and
- D. had an obvious and direct financial interest in the activities of the Establishment.

Defendant Arrieta may be served by delivering the *Summons* and a copy of *Plaintiff's Original Complaint* to Defendant Arrieta at 7706 Northbridge Dr., Spring, TX 77379.

4. Defendant Cardenas. Mirthala Cardenas is an individual residing in the State of Texas. On the date of the Event (as defined herein), Defendant Cardenas:

- A. was an owner and/or manager of the Establishment;
- B. was an officer and/or owner of the entity owning the Establishment;

- C. had a right and ability to supervise the activities of the Establishment; and
- D. had an obvious and direct financial interest in the activities of the Establishment.

Defendant Cardenas may be served by delivering the *Summons* and a copy of *Plaintiff's Original Complaint* to Defendant Cardenas at 7706 Northbridge Dr., Spring, TX 77379.

STATEMENT OF JURISDICTION

5. This action arises under the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 553 or 605 in Texas.

VENUE

6. Venue is proper in this District because Defendants reside in this District and a substantial part of the events giving rise to the claim occurred in this District.

STATEMENT OF THE CLAIM

7. Authorization to License Event. Plaintiff is the license company exclusively authorized to sub-license the closed-circuit telecast of the May 5, 2012 Floyd Mayweather, Jr. v. Miguel Cotto, WBA World Light Middleweight Championship Fight Program, including undercard or preliminary bouts,¹ (collectively the “Event”) at closed-circuit locations such as theaters, arenas, bars, clubs, lounges, restaurants and the like throughout Texas.

8. The closed-circuit broadcast of the Event was not intended for the use of the general public. In Texas, the closed-circuit broadcast of the Event could only be exhibited in a commercial establishment, if the establishment was contractually authorized to do so by Plaintiff.

9. Pursuant to its authority to sub-license the Event, Plaintiff marketed and distributed the closed-circuit rights granted to it. Plaintiff, through its agents, contracted with

¹ One of the bouts for the Event included the fight between Shane Mosley and Saul Alvarez.

various establishments throughout Texas and granted such establishments the right to broadcast the Event in exchange for a fee.

10. Exhibition of the Event. The transmission of the Event originated via satellite and was electronically coded or “scrambled.” In order for the signal to be received and telecast clearly, it had to be decoded with electronic decoding equipment.

11. The transmission of the Event was available to Defendants to purchase for broadcast in the Establishment. Had Defendants chosen to purchase the Event, Defendants would have been authorized to receive, transmit and publish the Event in the Establishment. Defendants did not, however, contract with Plaintiff or any of its agents, to obtain the rights to broadcast the Event.

12. The establishments which contracted with Plaintiff to broadcast the Event were provided with the electronic decoding capability and/or satellite coordinates necessary to receive the signal of the Event.

13. On May 5, 2012, either by satellite transmission or through unauthorized receipt over a cable system, Defendants willfully intercepted or received the interstate communication of the Event. In the alternative, Defendants assisted in the receipt of the interstate communication of the Event. Defendants then transmitted, divulged and published said communication, or assisted in transmitting, divulging and publishing said communication, to patrons within the Establishment.

14. Defendants misappropriated Plaintiff’s licensed exhibition of the Event and infringed upon Plaintiff’s exclusive rights while avoiding proper payment to Plaintiff. Defendants’ actions were committed willfully and with the express purpose and intent to secure a commercial advantage and private financial gain.

15. Defendants enabled the patrons within the Establishment to view the Event to which neither Defendants nor the Establishment's patrons were entitled to do.

16. The persons whom Defendants permitted to view the Event would otherwise have been able to view it at a commercial establishment only if said commercial establishment was properly licensed and authorized by Plaintiff.

17. Defendants were not authorized to intercept, receive or transmit the communication of the Event or to assist in such actions in any form or at any time.

VIOLATION OF 47 U.S.C. § 553 OR § 605

18. Defendants' wrongful actions in connection with the Event, as described above, violate 47 U.S.C. Section 553, or Section 605.

DEMAND FOR RELIEF SOUGHT

Plaintiff demands that the Court sign and cause to be entered a judgment in favor of Plaintiff and against Defendants 1) C.A.A. Business LLC, individually, and d/b/a Rio Verde Night Club; 2) Juan Arrieta, individually, and d/b/a Rio Verde Night Club; and 3) Mirthala Cardenas, individually, and d/b/a Rio Verde Night Club, jointly and severally, for:

- (a) Statutory damages in an amount up to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 553(c)(3)(A)(ii);
- (b) Statutory damages for willfulness in an amount up to Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000.00), pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 553(c)(3)(B);
- (c) Statutory damages in an amount up to Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 605(e)(3)(C)(i)(II);
- (d) Statutory damages in an amount up to One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 605(e)(3)(C)(ii);
- (e) Permanent Injunction enjoining any future exhibition of unauthorized or unlicensed programs and any violation of 47 U.S.C. §§ 553 or 605;
- (f) Full costs and expenses of this action, including reasonable attorney's fees, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 553(c)(2)(C) and 605(e)(3)(B)(iii);
- (g) Pre and post-judgment interest at the highest rate permitted by law; and

(h) Such other and further relief to which Plaintiff is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

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